

This is an official

DHEC Health Update

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South Carolina *Shigella* Surveillance & Identified Antimicrobial Resistance

Background

This DHEC Health Update is a supplement to the DHEC Health Advisory of May 8, 2008, on “*Shigella* outbreaks in Richland and Lexington Counties” (available at: www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/han/docs/DHA-Shi-1.pdf) and provides treatment guidance for antibiotic-resistant *Shigella* that have been identified associated with these outbreaks.

In 2008, South Carolina has experienced an increase in *Shigella* reports when compared to the last 3 years of reported data. This trend is consistent with several other states and also overall national data as reported in the most recent CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, “Table II: Provisional Cases of Selected Notifiable Diseases” (available at: www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/wk/mm5719.pdf). In South Carolina, a majority of cases that are investigated have not identified epidemiologic links among cases. However, in the past three weeks, *Shigella sonnei* outbreaks have been confirmed in three schools and in two daycares in Richland and Lexington counties.

Shigellosis outbreaks can occur at any time of the year but are most common in the summertime. Culture-confirmed cases should be promptly reported to local health departments so that outbreaks of shigellosis can be recognized and appropriate control measures instituted.

Identified Antimicrobial Resistance

Antibiotic resistance is common in many isolates of *Shigella* sp., often to either ampicillin or trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole. Since April 2008, several *Shigella* isolates from persons residing in Richland and Lexington counties showed resistance to both ampicillin and/or trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole. All of these isolates were susceptible to ciprofloxacin, an antibiotic not approved by the FDA for use in children less than 18 years of age. While most clinical infections with *Shigella* are self-limited (48-72 hours) and do not require antimicrobial therapy, treatment is recommended for patients with severe disease, dysentery, or underlying immunosuppressive conditions.

The following antimicrobial treatment guidelines are from the 2006 Redbook:

- Antimicrobial susceptibility testing of clinical isolates is indicated for all cases of *Shigella* infection, because resistance to antimicrobial agents is common and susceptibility data can guide appropriate therapy.
- For cases in which antimicrobial susceptibility is unknown, empiric treatment with azithromycin or parenteral ceftriaxone may be given. For persons 18 years or older, ciprofloxacin may be used. Once antimicrobial susceptibility results are known, treatment should be changed to an antimicrobial agent to which the isolate is susceptible.
- If susceptibility test results indicate *Shigella* resistance to ampicillin or trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, oral azithromycin or parenteral ceftriaxone may be given. For persons 18 years or older, ciprofloxacin may be used.

References and Additional Information

- Red Book 27th Edition: 2006 Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases. Am Acad Ped pp. 589-90.

DHEC Contact Information for Reportable Diseases and Reporting Requirements

Reporting of Shigellosis cases is included in the current DHEC List of Reportable Conditions as a “report within 7 days” condition. However, outbreaks or clusters of cases are considered “Immediately Reportable by Phone” conditions. Healthcare providers are required to report suspected or confirmed cases to their Regional Public Health Offices, at the contact numbers listed below.

Federal HIPAA legislation allows disclosure of protected health information, without consent of the individual, to public health authorities to collect and receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease. (HIPAA 45 CFR §164.512).

Regional Public Health Offices – 2008

Mail or call reports to the Epidemiology Office in each Public Health Region.

Region 1

Anderson, Oconee

220 McGee Road
Anderson, SC 29625
Phone: (864) 260-4358
Fax: (864) 260-5623
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-298-4442

Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Saluda

1736 S. Main Street
Greenwood, SC 29646
Phone: 1-888-218-5475
Fax: (864) 942-3690
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-420-1915

Region 2

Greenville, Pickens

PO Box 2507
200 University Ridge
Greenville, SC 29602-2507
Phone: (864) 282-4139
Fax: (864) 282-4373
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-993-1186

Cherokee, Spartanburg, Union

PO Box 4217
151 E. Wood Street
Spartanburg, SC 29305-4217
Phone: (864) 596-2227, x- 210
Fax: (864) 596-3443
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-993-1186

Region 3

Chester, Lancaster, York

PO Box 817
1833 Pageland Highway
Lancaster, SC 29721
Phone: (803) 286-9948
Fax: (803) 286-5418
Nights / Weekends: 1-866-867-3886

Region 3 (continued)

Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland

2000 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC 29204
Phone: (803) 576-2749
Fax: (803) 576-2993
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-554-9915

Region 4

Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter

PO Box 1628
105 North Magnolia Street
Sumter, SC 29150
Phone: (803) 773-5511
Fax: (803) 775-9941
Nights/Weekends: 1-877-831-4647

Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro, Marion

145 E. Cheves Street
Florence, SC 29506
Phone: (843) 661-4830
Fax: (843) 661-4859
Nights / Weekends: (843) 660-8145

Region 5

Bamberg, Calhoun, Orangeburg

PO Box 1126
1550 Carolina Avenue
Orangeburg, SC 29116
Phone: (803) 533-7199
Fax: (803) 533-7134
Nights / Weekends: (803) 954-8513

Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell

1680 Richland Avenue, W. Suite 40
Aiken, SC 29801
Phone: (803) 642-1618
Fax: (803) 643-8386
Nights / Weekends: (803) 827-8668 or
1-800-614-1519

Region 6

Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg

1931 Industrial Park Road
Conway, SC 29526-5482
Phone: (843) 915-8804
Fax: (843) 365-0085
Nights / Weekends: (843) 381-6710

Region 7

Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester

4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600
N. Charleston, SC 29405
Phone: (843) 746-3860
Fax: (843) 746-3851
Nights / Weekends: (843) 219-8470

Region 8

Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper

219 S. Lemacks Street
Walterboro, SC 29488
Phone: (843) 549-1516, x-214
Fax: (843) 549-6845
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-614-4698

DHEC Bureau of Disease Control Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology

1751 Calhoun Street
Box 101106
Columbia, SC 29211
Phone: (803) 898-0861
Fax: (803) 898-0897
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-847-0902



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Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.